

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DHAHRA 00950 271118Z

14

ACTION OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 L-03 /027 W

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P 270935Z JUL 76

FM HLEINSUL DHAHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4851

AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

UNCLAS DHAHRAN 0950

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, SA

SUBJECT: M.M. SUNDT CONSTRUCTION COMPANY/OPIC

REF: STATE 149087, JIDDA 5105

1. RE PARA 5 OF DEPTTEL, BOTH SAUDI PARTNERS ARE UNDERSTOOD TO HAVE THEIR HEAD OFFICES IN RIYADH. CONGEN DEFERS TO EMBASSY JIDDA FOR COMMENT RE REQUEST CONTAINED IN PARA 5 OF DEPTTEL. EMBASSY MAY WISH TO NLO PRINCE KHALID BIN SAUD BIN MOHAMMED'S RIYADH POSU OFFICE BOX IS GIVEN AS 3050, AND SAUDI ARABIAN TRADING AND CONTRACTING ESTABLISHMENT (C.R. 841), OWNED BY KHALID M. A. SHAWWATEW CAM BE REACHED TRHROUGH P.O. BOX 648, RIYADH. IN THIS REGARD, HELPFUL IF OPIC, WHEN REQUESTING BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON SAUDI FIRMS, WOULD PROVIDE THEIR POSTAL ADDRESSES AND, IF KNOWN, THEIR TELEPHONE NUMBERS. THIS INFORMATION GREATLY SPEEDS OUR WORK IF SUPPLIED WITH OPIC REQUEST, WHICH ASUSALLY MADE ON ASAP BASIS.

2. RE PARA 6 OF REFTTEL, ARABIAN SUNDT HAS CONTRACT TO BUILD ROT HOUSING UNITS (OF WHICH 45 ARE TEN STORIES HIGH) FOR ARAMCO. PROJECT, WHEN COMPLETED, WILL HAVE IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTAL IMPACT AS IT WILL RELEASE HOUSING ARAMCO CURRENTLY LEASING IN TIGHT RENTAL MARKET. FOR MANY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN AREA, LACK OF HOUSING IS MAJOR CONSTRAINT. FOR EXAMPLE, BECHTEL AND GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT TEAMS ON JUBAIL PETRO-CHEMICAL COMPLEX ARE FRANTICALLY LOOKING FOR HOUSES FOR THEIR PERSONNEL AND, IN PROCESS, ARE BIDDING UP HOUSING RENTALS WHICH IS MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR TO SAUDI ARABIA'S STEEP-CLIMBING INFLATIONARY RATE.

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3, ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS DIFFICULT TO MEASURE. ARCHITECT

ON PROJECT NOTES THAT IT WILL ACCELERATE RUNOFF ON AND AROUND
CONSTRUCTION SITE DURING SHORT BUT DRAMATIC RAINY SEASON IN AREA.
HOWEVER, ONCE PROJECT IS COMPLETED, RUNOFF WILL NOT ONLY BE
CHANNELIZED BUT LANDSCAPING WORK ASSOCIATED WITH PROJECT WILL AID
IN RETENTION OF MOISTURE IN SOIL AND STABLIZE THE EROSION CYCLE
IN AREA WHERE HOUSING UNITS ARE BEING CONSTRUCTED.
BUSHNELL

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